

The magazine of the Barnsley Group Pastorate



AUTUMN 2015



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Dear friends

You may have seen the Bible reading notes, VOICE OF HOPE, which are provided free of charge by Premier Christian Radio. If you would like a copy please let me know as they send me five copies of each issue to distribute to whoever would like them. Or you can phone 020 7316 1487 and they will send a copy direct to you. If you have access to the internet you can request a regular copy by going to www.premier.org.uk/requestVOH



Below is a 'day' reproduced from the latest issue.

Psalm 44:26

Rise up! Help us! Redeem us because of your unfailing love.

There is a consistent thread running throughout Christian history of the need to pray. Calling upon God's name for God's intervention, making confession and thanksgiving, those elements are not only running throughout scripture but are also a part of the Christian Church's landscape we recognise and respect. There is no active Christian who would declare that prayer was inessential to a vibrant Christian life and no church believes that prayer is not a significant channel along which God's grace flows into this world.

Yet, if we take a moment of sober and honest reflection, we might be challenged by our own lack of investment in prayer, us regular Joes who are instructed to pray regularly. Jesus set the pattern throughout his ministry on earth, withdrawing regularly to spend time in prayer.

Indeed, I've spoken to many people who associate prayer with quietness and silence. I remember when I had a toddler wandering around, I was always up early in the morning,

my favourite time to spend some time in prayer and read some scripture. Well, she decided that she wanted to be with me, and I discovered the skill of praying while being crawled over.

And that truly is a picture of prayer. Even when we cannot understand the whys and the wherefore of the life that surrounds us, we can continue to call out to God. One question this presents to each one of us is the value we place in the activity of prayer. It is a Christian distinctive to recognise that God hears and heeds the prayers of the Church, of you and me.

Therefore there can be no greater service to God than to pray for a struggling world, while also to call upon God's name when life is bleak for us. Prayer changes the external world around me, as well as changing me directly; I see differently, think differently and begin to live differently.

QUESTION:

How much time and attention do you invest in prayer?

PRAYER:

Gracious King, teach me how to pray.

Items for the Winter 2015 LINK need to be with me by Sunday 1st November). Thanks.

Your friend and minister

Nick

(Cover photo: Kungsträdgården, Stockholm)

Group Pastorate Services 2015

We meet together for worship,
fellowship and food
three times a year. The
remaining service this year is:

WEST MELTON - 11th OCTOBER

*This service will start at 11.00am
and will, as usual, be followed by a
time of fellowship
as we eat lunch together.*

YOU ARE ALL WELCOME.

PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN
YOUR DIARY NOW

WEST MELTON'S GREEN TIPS CORNER

By Helen Owen

Number 28 GIVE HOUSE PLANTS A TREAT



Pop small house plants outdoors next time it rains (not cacti, succulents or hairy leaved plants). The rain will wash the dust from the leaves so they can photosynthesize more effectively and stimulate growth. Result? Lush, healthy plants.

OPEN VILLAGE

Saturday 19 September

A day and evening where venues, groups and residents share their talents and host activities to show what Clayton West has to offer.

On the day so far...

- * Kirklees Big Band performance
- * Golden Bear Hunt
- * Bus stop serenades
- * Organ recital
- * High tea with little helpers
- * Fly fishing demo
- * Lawn bowls demo
- * Mr Bike bicycle maintenance
- * Singing round the piano
- * Village knitters unite
- * Millennium Green orienteering

The full programme of where and when things are happening will be confirmed in September and shared on lampposts, in local shops and through local groups.

Made in Clayton West is supporting Open Village by connecting people and promoting what's happening.

If there's something you really want to do for Open Village please let us know!



Email: madeinclaytonwest@outlook.com

Text: 07779561807

Facebook: www.facebook.com/madeinclaytonwest

Vicki, Jo and Adele

The URC will be hosting the Organ Recital at 1.00pm and the High Tea with little helpers at 2.00pm

Holiday Club does a Polar expedition! by Louisa Taylor

This year at holiday club the theme was Polar Explorers. On Tuesday it was all about saying sorry and forgiving. “Wolf Grylls” (Roland) came to see us and his assistant thought they were going to Spain but they were actually going to do a polar expedition. The assistant had brought all the wrong equipment! Wolf wasn’t very happy but he forgave his assistant. We made placemats by weaving paper and then had a story about Jesus and his disciple, Peter. In the story, Peter pretended that he didn’t know Jesus because he was frightened. Later, Peter was very sorry about what he had done towards Jesus. We sang lots of songs and we went dancing. We learned a dance and played games.



On Wednesday we made pizzas and they were delicious. Wolf Grylls came to see us again and this time his assistant had forgotten the food.



Luckily someone else remembered it and Wolf forgave his assistant. We heard a story about Stephen who told people all about Jesus. We made penguins out of plastic eggs and did a polar bear hunt in Cliffe Woods, I loved this activity. Although some of the polar bears were really hard to find, it was really fun.

On Thursday Wolf Grylls came again and this time we played a trick on him; he was really scared when we made him jump. While Wolf was telling us one of his stories his assistant choked on a Mars Bar but Wolf took no notice! When he finally noticed that his assistant was in trouble, he took care of him. We heard a story about Philip who told an



Ethiopian man all about Jesus. We made a model of Philip and the man in a desert with a palm tree and an oasis. We went on a trip to The Zone and had lots of fun!

When we arrived at Holiday Club on Friday we made a Polar Bear. We met Wolf Grylls and his assistant again. The story was about Saul. While he was travelling to Damascus a bright light suddenly shone at him. Jesus spoke to him and later Saul decided to follow Jesus and he told everyone about



Jesus. We made stained glass windows, to remember the bright light in the story. We played lots of games at the party.



I had lots of fun at Holiday Club this year. I enjoyed the activities and trips, seeing my friends and making things. I am looking forward to coming back.





An important letter from Traidcraft

Dear friends

I'm writing to you today with a simple message. **We urgently need your help.** We need **your** help because the world's poorest small-scale farmers, struggling to feed and support their families, need **our** help.

Sound like a familiar plea? It should. It's the same message as when we first started our mission over 35 years ago – to practically apply the love and justice which lies at the heart of Christian Faith to international trade and so give the world's poorest farmers the opportunity to trade fairly and thrive.

You'd be forgiven for thinking the Fairtrade battle is won. Chocolate, tea, coffee and many more products with the now familiar Fairtrade Mark are stacked high on our supermarket shelves. Something Traidcraft and our supporters can be proud to have helped bring about. However, it is a myth that the job is done.

Tragically, injustice in trade and its resultant poverty is as much of a scandal now as it was 35 years ago, and right now we're still doing everything we can to tackle it.

Traidcraft and Fairtrade are not the same. Traidcraft is an independent trading company, with a linked development charity. We do not benefit from the sales of Fairtrade products in the supermarkets. Traidcraft trades with and supports the most

vulnerable farmers (who simply cannot cope with the demands of supermarkets.) We pioneer to bring new commodities into the fair trade arena. Our linked development charity runs projects developing peoples' potential to trade their own way out of poverty in their own countries; and we lobby big business and government for fundamental changes to the way trade works so that it benefits the poor.

We believe this is the 'best of fair trade'.

But we **urgently** need help to **keep** doing it because despite the growth of total Fairtrade sales, we've seen Traidcraft sales significantly decline. Why? People are buying Fairtrade products from the supermarket and not from Traidcraft or its supporters. This means our original pioneering mission is now under serious threat. How can you help? It's simple...

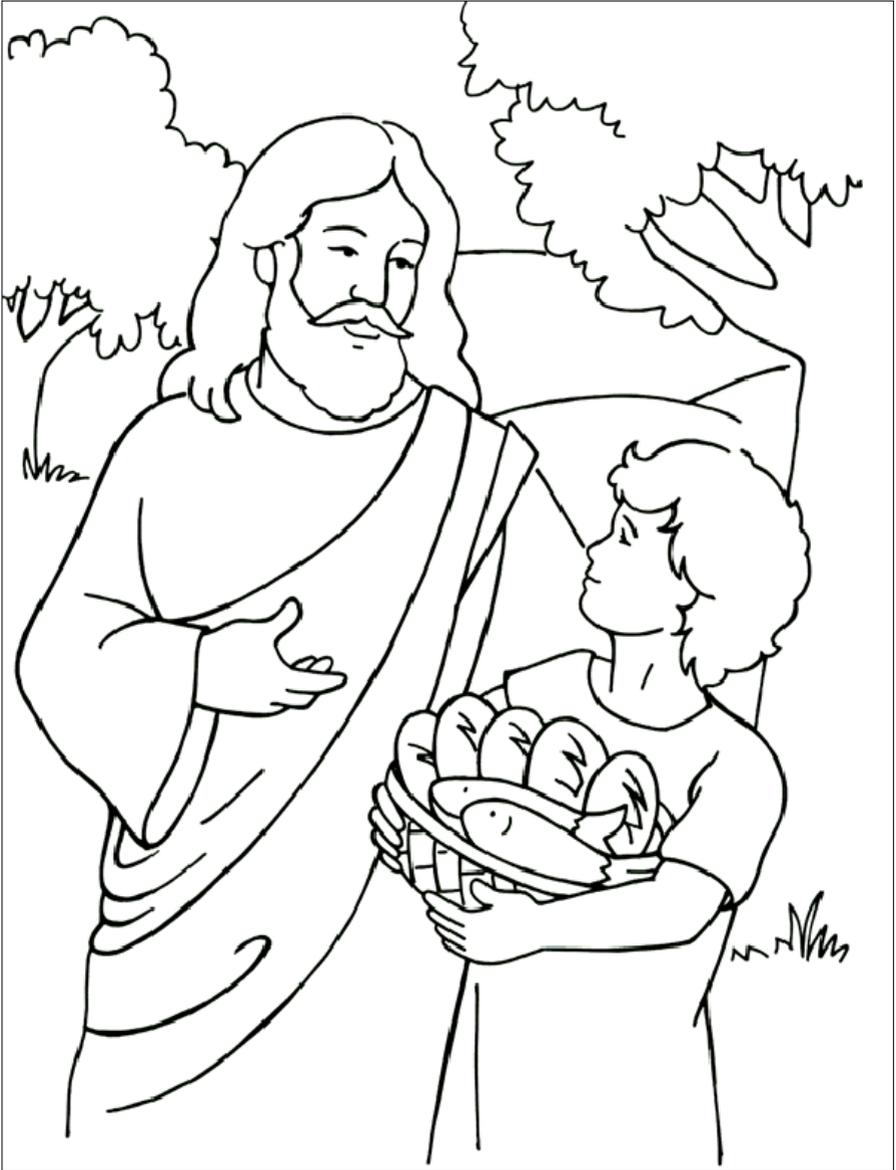
- Ensure there's a Traidcraft Fair Trader in your church, ***offer them as much support as possible and buy Traidcraft products through them.***
- Don't just serve refreshments with the Fairtrade Mark on, make sure they're from Traidcraft.

That's really all we ask. Support us. So that together, we can continue to make trade fairer for the world's poorest producers who still desperately need our help.

Thank you for your ongoing love and support and please keep us, and those we strive to help, in your prayers.

Yours faithfully,

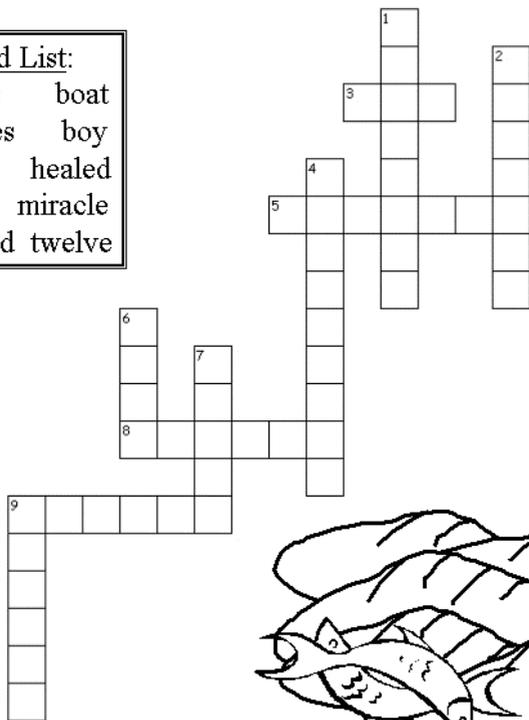
Andy Biggs
(Chief Executive)



A picture for you to colour - 5000 men, plus women and children were fed.

Jesus Feeds 5000 Crossword

Word List:	
baskets	boat
disciples	boy
bread	healed
hungry	miracle
thousand	twelve



Across

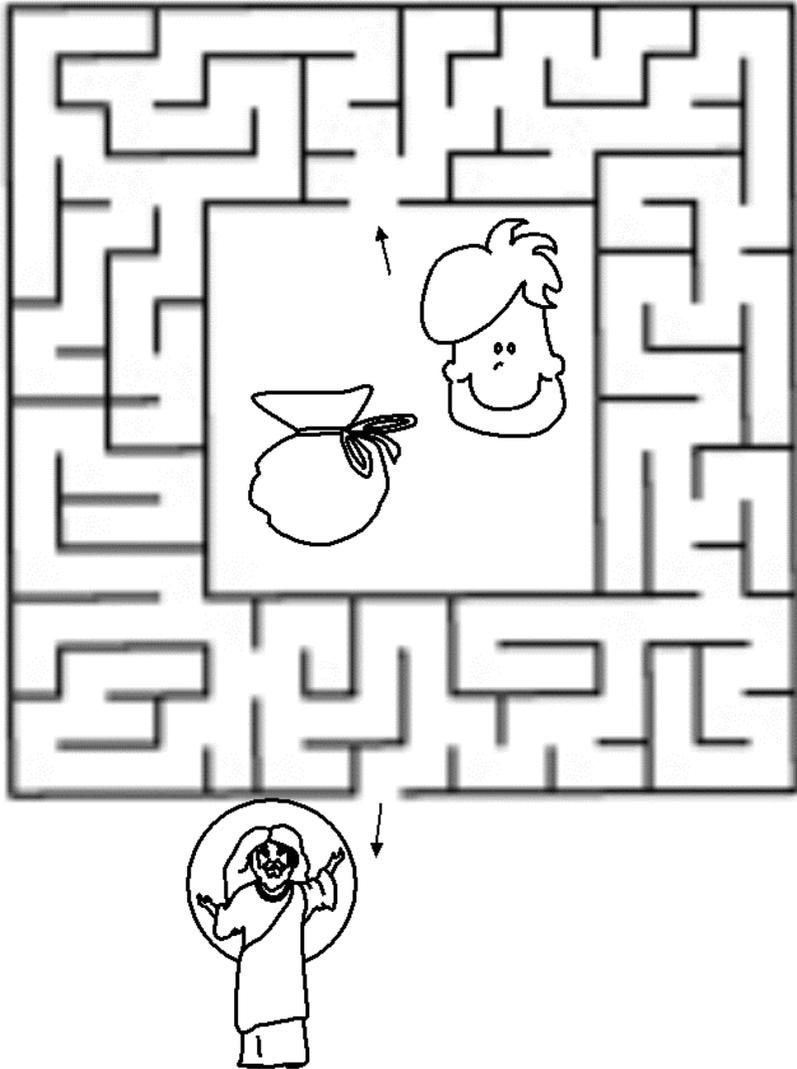
- Jesus used this persons small lunch to feed five thousand.
- Jesus performed this on the boy's lunch and still does them today.
- This is how many baskets of food were left over.
- One of the other miracles Jesus did that day was that he ____ people.

Down

- Five ____ people followed Jesus just to listen to Him and be healed.
- Jesus filled enough of these to feed all the people.
- The ____ doubted how they would feed all the people.
- This was Jesus and the disciples' transportation that day.
- The boy had 2 small fish and 5 pieces of ____ in his lunch.
- Everyone was ____ that's why Jesus performed the miracle.

Jesus Feeds Five Thousand Maze

Help the boy with the his lunch find Jesus.



From: www.dltk-bible.com/jesus/jesus_feeds-activities.htm

WORLD NEWS

Millions Suffer As Floods Sweep South Asia

Myanmar Remains Waterlogged in Worst Natural Disaster Since Cyclone Nargis

August 18, 2015

As rains continue to soak Myanmar, the nation struggles to cope with the worst natural disaster since Cyclone Nargis, which killed nearly 140,000 people in 2008. So far, more than 100 people have died in the monsoon floods and landslides that have swept away parts of the country during the past few weeks. Although floodwaters have receded in some places, rains are expected to continue.

More than 1 million people are suffering due to the recent floods and landslides, including believers in congregations led by Gospel for Asia-supported pastors. The floods badly damaged or completely destroyed some believers' homes, forcing them to find shelter in the homes of relatives or other Christians.

During a storm, two trees fell on the house that a local Gospel for Asia-supported Women's Fellowship leader rents, destroying her kitchen. Nearby, a Gospel for Asia-supported pastor and his family have been staying in a church building after losing the roof of their home.

In another village, a landslide destroyed the church building where a congregation of 20 families once worshiped the Lord with a local Gospel for Asia-supported pastor. People in this community are struggling for survival, as storm damage has prevented relief teams from reaching them with food and help.

"We cannot go there and help them because bridges and roads are destroyed and blocked," shared a Gospel for Asia-supported leader in the region.



Please pray for:

- Flood victims to find comfort, peace, redemption and restoration in Christ's love.
- Roads to clear so needy villages can be reached with relief.
- Shelter and food for those who have lost their homes and possessions.
- Provision for relief teams to help flood victims effectively and quickly.
- Quick reconstruction of destroyed homes and churches.

For more world news please visit GOSPEL FOR ASIA at www.gfauk.org



Churches prepare for a season of invitation

Churches across England are gearing up to bring former churchgoers back to church and encourage those who have never been to give it a go in a *Season of Invitation* from the end of September to Christmas this year.

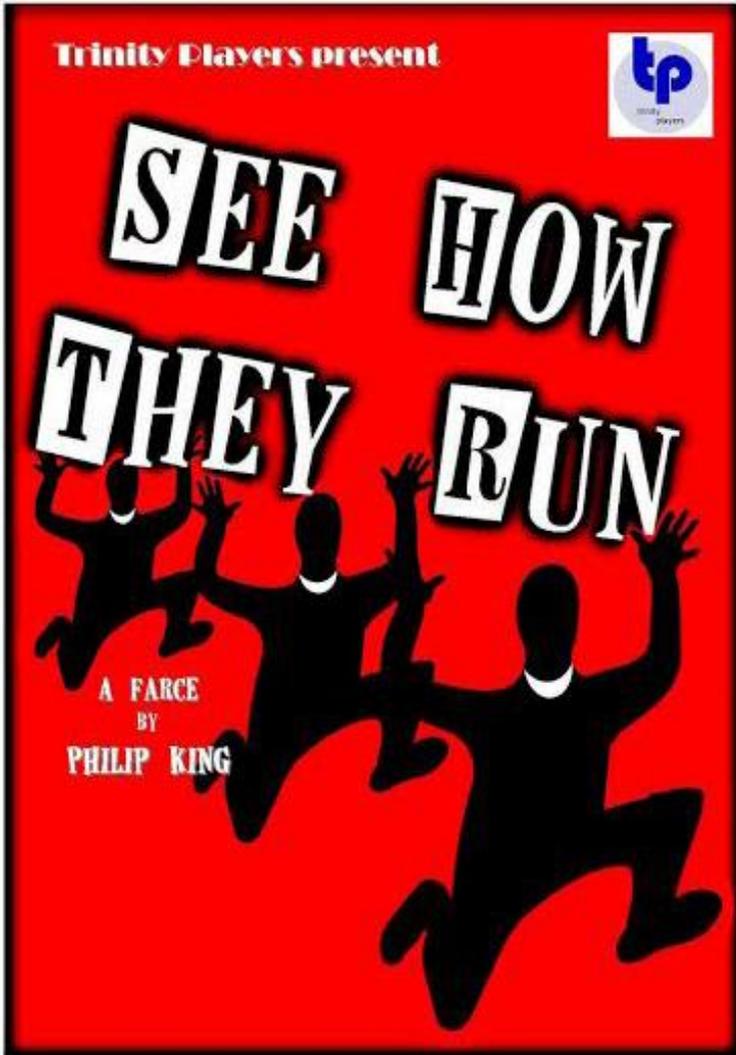
Training sessions led by Michael Harvey, the co-founder of Back to Church Sunday, help people to invite people they know to church.

Since 2004 Back to Church Sunday has helped reach those who had once attended church but whose attendance had lapsed for a variety of reasons. By 2011 around 230,000 had come back to the church as a result of the initiative.

Research indicated that people responded better to a choice of services rather than a single day, so the idea of a Season of Invitation was born.

The season runs from Back to Church Sunday at the end of September and includes services at Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and Advent.

Training sessions are planned for the URC's Yorkshire, North Western and Mersey Synods in September. (Yorkshire's is, I think, on Tuesday 1 September)



A ripping yarn of mistaken identity, headlong humour and tense comic situations. Directed by John Parker and playing from 14th to 17th October 2015. To book please visit www.trinityplayersbarnsley.com or email: BoxOffice@trinityplayersbarnsley.com or phone: 07510 967772

Your Autumnal Recipe

Autumn tomato chutney

A good tomato chutney takes some beating, and this version is great because it's not too sweet.



Ingredients

- 1kg ripe tomatoes, peeled and chopped
- 750g cooking apples, peeled, cored and chopped
- 375g light muscovado sugar
- 250g onions, chopped
- 250g raisins
- 1 green pepper, deseeded and chopped
- 2 tsp salt ½ tsp ground ginger
- 350ml cider vinegar

Method

Put all the ingredients into a large pan and bring to the boil over a medium heat. Stir occasionally until the sugar has dissolved. Boil the mixture, uncovered, for about 45-50 mins until the fruit is tender and thickened. Cool, then transfer the mixture to a sterilised jar and seal.

VOLUNTEER REQUIRED

In 2009 I took on the role of editor of the LINK magazine for ONE year. I feel that it is now time to stand down and let someone else do this very worthwhile job.

I will edit the next two editions (Winter 2015 and Spring 2016) and will be happy for the new editor to work with me on these magazines. If no one offers then the next two editions will be the last two!

It may be that a few of you would like to take it on, in which case you can either work as a team or work on a rota. The choice is yours.

To produce the magazine you will need a computer and access to the internet and email. Persuasive powers to get people to contribute to the magazine would be a great help. You will also need to get an electronic copy of the completed magazine to our printer in Barnsley from where you will need to collect the magazines. They will then need to be distributed to the three churches in our group.

The work involved will not, or should not, take more than about 10 hours per edition! The content of the magazine is entirely up to the editor. You do not have to follow what has gone before. It could be time for your creative juices to flow.

I look forward to receiving all the applications for this very rewarding (alas not financially!) job. Thanks.

Nick

Time for a larf - contributed by Rona Woodcock



A minister goes to the dentist for a set of false teeth. The first Sunday after he gets his new teeth, he talks for only eight minutes.

The second Sunday, he talks for only ten minutes. The following Sunday, he talks for 2 hours and 48 minutes.

The congregation had to mob him to get him down from the pulpit and they asked him what happened.

The minister explains the first Sunday his gums hurt so bad he couldn't talk for more than 8 minutes. The second Sunday his gums hurt too much to talk for more than 10 minutes. But, the third Sunday, he put his wife's teeth in by mistake and he couldn't shut up...

If you are not offended I'm sure you will be smiling!

Instead of the John I call my bathroom the Jim! That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning!!

I read recipes the same way I read science fiction. I get to the end and think, "Well that's not going to happen."

I finally figured out what I want to be when I get older.....YOUNGER!!

REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN OUR CHURCHES

Clayton West

Sunday	Worship every week at 3.00 pm. Communion is included in the service on the 1 st first Sunday of each month
Friday	Baby and Toddler Group 1.00pm - 3.00pm (<i>in term time</i>)
Saturday	Coffee Morning on the 4 th Saturday each month 10.00am

Trinity (Barnsley)

Sunday	Worship every week at 10.30 am. Communion is included in the service on the 3 rd third Sunday of each month
Tuesday	Bible Study at 7.30 pm
Wednesday	Age-Well (<i>over 50s club</i>) every week 10.30am-1.00pm Trinity Players every week at 7.30pm

West Melton

Sunday	Worship on the 1 st (<i>inc. WHIZZ KIDS</i>) and 4 th Sundays at 10.30am and on the 2 nd & 3 rd Sundays at 3.00pm. Communion is included in the service on the 3 rd Sunday of each month
Tuesday	Fellowship evening (<i>varied programme</i>) 7.30pm on the 4 th Tuesday of each month
Wednesday	Little Stars 9.30am every week (<i>in term time</i>)
Saturday	Men's Breakfast at 8.00am on the 3rd Saturday each month



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Mr. John Paskell. *(As above)*

www.urbarnsleygroup.org.uk